

Identification of Supporting and Inhibiting Factors on Islamic Character Education in Inclusive Schools

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Abstract. The focus of this article discusses the inhibiting and supporting factors in character education in inclusive schools. Policy makers have actually made regulations in National Education System's Law regarding the implementation of inclusive education, namely Regulation Number 70 of 2009. However, in practice, there are obstacles in the implementation of inclusion education in Indonesia, especially regarding character education, so it is necessary to describe supporting and inhibiting factors related to this issue. This article is a qualitative study and is described descriptively. The sources of this research are the school principal, teachers and students in inclusive schools. The results of the study based on interviews, observations and documentation conducted by the author show that there are supporting factors in character education in inclusive schools, namely teachers as role models, reinforcement by the school principals and teachers when there are special needs students who experience tantrums/meltdown, religious cocurricular activities, the process of adaptation and habituation of normal students in communicating and interacting with special need students, as well as the school climate that is perceived as comfortable by the principal, teachers and students. While the inhibiting factors are lack of synergy of parents in repeating Islamic character education programs at home, school activities and infrastructure that require a lot of financing, the teachers who are less experienced in handling special needs students, lack of periodic training for teachers in handling and compiling an inclusion curriculum, low quality standards for inclusive school management, and community perspectives that are still negative towards inclusion education. It can be concluded that Islamic character education must go through a process of intervention and habituation continuously, negated and carried out consciously by each element.

Keywords: Inclusive education, Islamic character education, supporting factors, inhibiting factors.

1 Introduction

Children with special needs often get discriminatory behavior from those around them and often get denied human rights including the right to access education [1]. In addition, children with special needs are also less understanding, uninformed and unaware of their rights. Arriani et al. mentioned that one of the problems in Indonesia in particular is the lack of understanding, awareness, and access to human rights which

results in the inability of children with special needs to participate as a whole in community life [2].

Indonesian people's awareness of children with special needs is still lacking and influenced by the beliefs of their ancestors before, such as myths that assume that children with special needs feed curses or punishments for the descendants of people who sin [3]. As a result, children with special needs are rarely noticed in community life and they are often isolated, hidden at home or in a certain institution. From this fact, it can be assumed that the number of children with special needs who receive educational services is still small. This is because there is still a mindset in society that ignores the potential of children with special needs [4].

Islamic history has recorded that people with mental or physical limitations were still able to do things that benefited themselves and others, such as Abdullah ibn um Maktum, a companion of the Holy Prophets who was able to memorize the Qur'an even though he was blind [5]. While in terms of science, there were some people who became experts in science, such as Thomas Alfa Edison who was upset and lacking in hearing but became the inventor of the lamp, Stephen Hopkins was a man who could not walk but became a physicist and so on. This should be one of the starting points for understanding that they also have the ability to compete with the average child when given information and given the opportunity to perform [6]. There are still many people who think that children with special needs cannot contribute actively and even tend not to benefit the general public. In some cases, children with special needs often get discriminatory behavior from those around them and often get denied human rights including the right to access education [7].

Inclusive education has a major influence on the education process that occurs in the world, every country is now competing to make policies and regulations that regulate it. Inclusive education is one of the efforts in providing access to education as a whole for every child with disabilities and non-disabilities. Inclusion is defined as a system by placing and involving all related elements in the implementation of the educational process, including students, education staff, parents, foundation administrators, teachers, and also school principals, with the aim that together they can develop a good, comfortable, and safe educational environment for all children so as to optimize the development of their potential [8].

In her research, Graham et.al. (2022) explain that inclusive schools have many weaknesses including teachers showing concern due to unpreparedness of human resources so that not many teachers care about children with special needs. In addition, the academic standards applied are inadequate, problems in the workplace, and problems accepting children with special needs [9]. In Steinbeck's research (2016) on the effectiveness of schools with inclusion programs, it is known that in addition to the advantages because students with special needs can interact directly with regular students, bad results are also obtained, namely isolation and frustration experienced by students. The limitations and privileges of regular students in inclusion classes make students with special needs vulnerable to bullying from their normal peers, especially children with special needs do not understand that bullying is something bad and the position of special needs students who is a victim is not realized. This is what makes regular students bully children with special needs in inclusion classes [10].

Efforts made by SD SAQU Ar Rayyan to improve the views of the community by instilling moral values of *akhlakul karimah* in students. At SD SAQU Ar Rayyan, Islamic character education is provided through compulsory congregational prayers, dhuha prayers, tahfidz, morning and evening dhikr, infaq, and adabiyah. During the implementation of these moral cultivation activities, special needs students are conditioned so that they are able to participate in activities until the end of the implementation. Not to forget also the homeroom teacher accompanied them and gave directions, with the aim that they could understand a little bit what activities they were participating in. In compulsory prayer activities and sunnah prayers, normal students are on the front shof and special needs students are on the back shof. For this reason, special needs students are placed on the back shof because the homeroom teacher or keislaman coordinator will find it easier to supervise them and if there are special needs students who are anxious or bored in participating in this activity, the task of the homeroom teacher or Islamic coordinator is to advise them and set a good example for them to be able to pray until the end.

In existing researches, scholars have explained the guiding the weaknesses in inclusive schools. There is no research that explains the implematation of Islamic character education in inclusive schools. SD SAQU Ar Rayyan as an inclusive school have various methods in applying Islamic character education, and this makes a harmonious relationship between normal students and special need students, so that they can learn side by side at school. So the author interested to explore what factors serve as supporters and inhibitors in the implementation of Islamic Character Education di inclusive school.

2 Methods

2.1 Research Design

This research is based on a survey research with a qualitative approach. The study was conducted with the purposive sampling technique. Qualitative measurements are carried out to indentify of the supporting and inhibiting factors of Islamic character education in inclusive schools.

2.2 Participants

The participants of this study were school principal, the homeroom teacher, special guidance teacher (GPK), Islamic religious teacher, and 4 normal students of SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon.

2.3 Data Collection

The instrument used in this study was obtained from interview, ducuments, and observation. The research instrument was in the form of open-ended questions asked to the school principal, the homeroom teacher, special guidance teacher (GPK), Islamic

religious teacher about the implementation of Islamic character education. Observations are made to record character education activities during learning process and outside the classroom.

2.4 Data Analysis

The research data were analyzed using data source triangulation. The process of data analysis through data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. By using multiple sources, researchers can gain a more comprehensive understanding of the research question and reduce the potential bias of using a single source.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Islamic character education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon

In this study, researchers took the location of the inclusive school of SD SAQU Ar Rayyan located on Jl. Pangeran Cakrabuana no. 9 Cempaka Arum, Sumber, Cirebon Regency. With the consideration that this school is an inclusive school that prioritizes akhlakul karimah and tahfidz Quran in their daily lives, and provides inclusion services to educate normal students and children with special needs together.

The school principle and teachers were being the role models, to love friends who have differences, say good things inside and outside the classroom. The school applies methods for Islamic character and moral cultivation through classical guidance services. The results of the interview with the principal mentioned,

"However, the implementation of moral cultivation will certainly differ between normal students and special needs students. SD SAQU Ar Rayyan implements inclusion education. In Permendiknas No. 70 of 2009, the definition of an inclusive school is an education delivery system that provides opportunities for all students who have disabilities and have special intelligence or talent potential to participate in education or learning in an educational environment together with other normal students."

So an inclusive school is a formal education unit where the school opens education that accepts special needs students and has The goal is to get access to quality education like students in general.

The concept of teachers in inclusive schools in dealing with their students will be different. Usually depends on the type of obstacle, the severity of special needs students and the needs of students for their education [11]. Teachers have perceptions about the types of barriers that exist in special needs students including emotional, physical, cognitive and sensory behavioral barriers. In the teaching and learning process must also adjust the existing curriculum, educational facilities and infrastructure must be considered and the learning system is managed according to what is needed

by each student [12]. Based on the interview with the homeroom teacher of grade 3 SD SAQU Ar Rayyan was found that,

"In the continuity of teaching and learning, we provide material based on the 2013 curriculum. Special needs students will be adjusted and summarized more simply according to their comprehension so that they are easy to understand."

The school communities must accept special needs students well and never distinguishing from other normal students. Based on the interview with Islamic religious teacher, author found data that,

"The school has the aim of applying habituation of noble morals and pious deeds. The importance of research at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan, namely having the habituation of religious activities such as tilawati which is usually carried out routinely every Friday morning with the guidance of the iqro book, carrying out congregational dhuha prayers, *keputrian* activities such as Islamic studies discussing menstruation, women's skills, *shiroh sahabiyah*, cooking, and other Islamic activities, namely memorization of hadith such as thematic verses and prayers. It is hoped that the program will run in accordance with the goal is to be able to carry out good moral cultivation and become an example for other schools in implementing classical guidance services in moral cultivation in inclusive schools.

One of the good classical guidance services is found at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan because classical guidance services are carried out on a scheduled basis and are highly considered. This school, commensurate with elementary schools in general. Little distinguishes that is accepting students with special needs and normal students in general or commonly called inclusive schools and prioritizing Islamic religious teachings in order to create a young generation with good morals.

At SD SAQU Ar Rayyah, there is only one special assistance teacher, while there are 7 students with special needs who need a companion with severe impairments. Hasil wawancara dengan GPK (special assistance teacher), author can conclude that,

"The duties of are: (a) Providing assistance in the form of special services for children with special needs who experience obstacles in participating in learning activities in public classes, in the form of remedial or enrichment; (b) Provide guidance on an ongoing basis and make special notes in case of teacher changes; (c) Provide assistance (sharing experiences) to the homeroom teachers and/or subject teachers so that they can provide educational services to children with special needs; (d) Carry out assessments with the team to diagnose special needs learning problems; and (e) Create a syllabus, curriculum, and evaluation tailored to the child's abilities."

Special needs students at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan are include ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder), speech delay, emotionally impaired, slow learner, and autistic. In this study, the focus of the research was on all grade. In grade 1, there are two special needs students with severe symptoms, namely ADHD and speech delay

with the initials IA and initials MA. In grade 2, there are two students who experience severe symptoms with the initials JS have emotionally impaired and RIW have slow learners. In grade 3, there are one special needs student with mild symptoms, namely the initials FA whose autistic students. In grade 4, there are two special needs students with mild symptoms, namely the initials FA whose ADHD students, and MR who has slow learner. There is a uniqueness in the research at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan that educators prioritize educating their students in accordance with the demands of Islam which aims to create a young generation with love and tolerance. By implementing the 2013 curriculum in accordance with the regulations of the education office, applying to students to carry out good religious habituation and always instill a confident attitude and homeroom and special assistance teachers here position as counselors with the aim of implementing guidance service programs for students in inclusive schools so that later they can create religious and competent graduates. The intense religious co-curricular activities carried out by the school are also one of the reinforcements for students in Islamic character education.

Table 1. Islamic Character Cultivation Activities at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan

Quran emorizing and read dua together, the students who have memorized and if students who have deposited will guide their friends who have not memorized. Dhuha prayers in congregation throughout the class are performed after memorization every day Held in congregation, normal students are on the front shof. special needs students who are classified as having high adaptation barriers can join normal students. special needs students on the back of the shof. Morning Dzikr Performed together after before starting the lesson. Infaq withdrawals are carried out every Friday by PAI teachers and then collected and deposited to school members in need or the community around the school The teacher in charge or coordinator of Islamic affairs provides materials about morals and their application in everyday life. Usually this activity is carried out after Sunnah prayers and obligatory prayers. The teacher provides reinforcement so that students can accept differences in special needs students. The most basic material was given by female students accompanied by a daughterhood coordinator.	Event Name	Information
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Basic materials were given by the daughterhood coordi-	Hygiene	
Hygiene nator.		
Siroh Teachers in charge of PAI subjects or daughterhood	Circh	Teachers in charge of PAI subjects or daughterhood
coordinators provide material about sirah.	SHOII	coordinators provide material about sirah.
Calligraphy Given paper that already has the form of calligraphy in	Calligraphy	Given paper that already has the form of calligraphy in

	the form of dots then students trace it. Each grade level has different difficulties.
How to Behave to the Opposite Sex	The teacher in charge or coordinator of Islam provides
	basic material on how to behave to people who are not
	his muhrim.
	The teacher in charge or coordinator of daughterhood
Cooking	introduces cooking utensils, types of vegetables and
	cooks simple dishes.
Adab to teacher	The teacher or daughterhood coordinator provides mate-
	rial on how to be polite and polite to the teacher

3.2 Supporting Factors and Inhibiting Factors of Islamic Character Education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon

The supporting factor of Islamic character education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon is that the teacher as a *role model* who patiently handles special needs in class so that normal students get direct examples in communicating with special needs students.

Table 2. Results of interviews with four normal students from grade 1 to grade 4.

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Event Name	Information
First grade student	Yes, in my class there are two classmate that looks different. At first, I felt strange and uncomfortable whenever they started looking angry, throwing things and running away from class. My teacher would tell me that my classmate was uncomfortable and needed time to calm down. And when they're calm, they're funny friends.
Second grade student	Several times, I've done group work with my special friend. They did take a long time to do the assignment, but I saw the teacher's so patiently encouraging and teaching him. It made me want to help him too, so that my friend would be happy and proud if he had completed the task according to his ability.
Third grade student	I am in the same class with a special needs clasemate from grade 1. From year to year, this friend has changed a lot. Now he is quieter in class. I used to be afraid of him, but now we often memorize the Qur'an and pray together. I saw how our teacher treated him meekly, and make me so I idolized my teacher so much.
Four grade student	My special needs clasemate used to be very unruly. Now he wants to participate in class. I also like to help him if he doesn't understand his assignment. Our teachers al- ways reminded us that God is merciful, and God wants us to treat our special needs clasemate with love.

Based on the results of the interview above, it was found that while studying together with special needs students, normal students go through an adaptation process, which is initially uncomfortable and avoids special needs students, but after they adapt and get used to it, they feel comfortable even though many activities require cooperation between normal students and special needs. In terms of school climate, both the principal, the homeroom teacher and students feel that the school has security, comfort and school order that is quite effective. Based on interviews with special guidance teachers, data was obtained that,

"I as a special guidance teacher still need to learn a lot to deal with students with special needs. We need to do a lot of training and training in order to create a more comprehensive curriculum."

At SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon, the obstacles experienced by the school in organizing character education are the lack of parental involvement in carrying out Islamic character education at home, lack of financing in facilitating facilities and infrastructure and other school activities that can shape Islamic character. Negative parenting can hinder the formation of Islamic character in students if parents do not participate in building tolerance character in their children, in order to accept children with special needs in their classes. Rangtua is the main role model for students to accept differences. Based on the author's observation, when returning home from school, there are parents who do not want to get out of their car when picking up their children at school for fear of children with special needs. This needs to be a special concern for schools so that in socializing that children with special needs do not need to be feared, because they are still school children who need affectionate treatment.

The results of observations found that the facilities and infrastructure at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon are still inaccessible. Related to this, the school gave a reason because funds have not been allocated for the provision of school facilities and infrastructure. The school finance component is the production component that determines the implementation of teaching and learning activities with other components.

According to Iba et al. (2021), education financing is "the activity of earning costs and managing education budgets and expenditures". In order to provide inclusive education, it is necessary to allocate special financing, which among others is for the purposes of: (1) Student input assessment activities. (2) Curriculum modification. (3) Incentives for education personnel involved. (4) Procurement of infrastructure. (5) Empowering community participation, and (6) Implementation of teaching and learning activities. [13].

As for how to teach the values mentioned above, Lickona (1997) explained that there are three important components in building character education, namely moral knowing, moral feeling and moral action. These three components can be used as an implementative reference in the process and stages of character education. Furthermore, the mission or objective that must be aimed at teaching him from not knowing to knowing, and in the later stages can cultivate the mind, so that he can function his intellect into intelligence. This is the first, cognitive. Second, affective, which deals with feelings, emotions, the formation of attitudes within one's person with the for-

mation of attitudes of sympathy, antipathy, love, hatred, and so on. These attitudes can all be classed as emotional intelligence. Third, psychomotor, is concerned with actions, deeds, behavior, and so on. When combined these three components can be stated that having knowledge about something, then having an attitude about it, then behaving according to what he knows and what he responds. Therefore, character education covers these three aspects, a student must know what is good and what is bad. The problem that arises is how one has an attitude towards good and bad, where one gets to the level of loving good and hating bad. At the next level act, behave in accordance with the values of goodness, so that it becomes moral and noble character [14].

Shumaker add more information, that inclusion means to not only accept diversity, but to value it and recognise heterogeneity as a resource. Yet the basis for the successful implementation of inclusive practices in the education system would mean that society as a whole needs to adopt an inclusive view of people and the world [15]. This pre-requisite is important as inclusion in the classroom cannot be successful if society keep living a discriminating and excluding norm. This means that successful inclusion needs to start with an essential mindset for without it, inclusion cannot succeed [10].

When viewed from the perspective of inclusion there are clearly identifiable problems with many aspects of current practice in schools. It could be argued that the framework for the national reports provided by Ministry of Education did not adequately address the challenges related to inclusion [16]. This in itself is an oversight that should not have happened if the intention was to ensure that recommendations for improving school leadership would retain a strong commitment to inclusion. There are many well documented areas where innovative thinking is needed and where policy imperatives are needed in order to frame a more inclusive school system [17].

Character education should be carried out in an integrated and interrelated manner, in its implementation involving all components and all human resources, infrastructure and media and other stakeholders The application of school management must be able to plan, coordinate, organize, supervise and manage finances and evaluate all activities within the school in it contains character values in an integrated or integrated manner in their activities.in accordance with their respective activities. This means that schools are able to plan education and programs and activities that instill character values.and carry out school quality control in character [18]. As illustrated in the 2010 Ministry of National Education School Character Education Guide describes that school management, school components, values and implementation of school-based management are all other stakeholders are needed in building the sturdy character of students.

4 Conclusion

Islamic character education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan has been going well. The principal, class teacher, special guidance teacher are directly involved in the implementation of character education.

The supporting factor of Islamic character education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon is that the teacher as a *role model* who patiently handles special needs in class so that normal students get direct examples in communicating with special needs students. Reinforcement by the principal, teachers and normal students every time there are special needs students who have tantrums or are experiencing emotional problems. The intense religious co-curricular activities carried out by the school are also one of the reinforcements for students in Islamic character education. While studying together with special needs students, normal students go through an adaptation process, which is initially uncomfortable and avoids special needs students, but after they adapt and get used to it, they feel comfortable even though many activities require cooperation between normal students and special needs. In terms of school climate, both the Principal, The homeroom teacher and students feel that the school has security, comfort and school order that is quite effective.

The obstacles to Islamic character education at SD SAQU Ar Rayyan Cirebon are activities and infrastructure that require large financing, the experience of educators in handling special needs students who have low adaptation in the teaching and learning process, special needs handler training is needed in schools for teachers. Another inhibiting factor is the quality standards of inclusive school management, the way the community views inclusive education in general.

In the learning process and while teacher handling of children with special needs that related to Islamic character education, SD SAQU Ar Rayyan has advantages and disadvantages due to the supporting and inhibiting factors that have been discussed. Suggestions for inclusive school, that school programs must implemented to avoid discrimination against special needs students. So that all students get equal opportunities regarding educational issues, the implementation of inclusive education can help in increasing the character values possessed by students. So that through the implementation of character education, students can embed character values, one of which is tolerance. In implementing inclusion education programs, all school communities, including school principal, teachers, special guidance teacher, administrator, and normal students are needed to support the implementation of Islamic character education in inclusion education.

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